

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is requested to allow Claims 30-31 and 34-47, as well as newly presented Claims 49-50, the only claims pending and under examination in this application.

In the above amendments, Claim 30 has been amended to incorporate the element of Claim 32, and Claim 32 has correspondingly been cancelled. In addition, the claim has been clarified to further define the opening as one that has an elongated shape, as supported by Figure 3, element 10. Analogous amendments have been made to Claim 46, with Claim 48 being cancelled. Claims 35, 36, 38 and 42 have been amended to be in independent format, and Claim 33 has correspondingly been cancelled. In addition, the dependency of claims 34, 41 and 44 has been changed in view of the cancellation of Claim 33. Finally, new claims 49 and 50 find support in Figure 3. As the above amendments introduce no new matter to the application, their entry by the examiner is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 30-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for various issues. In view of the above amendments, it is believed that the cited issues have been addressed. For example, the "cut" has been further defined in the claims, the term "paint-repellant" has been removed and antecedent basis has been provided for the term "substrate." Accordingly, this rejection may be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 30, 31, 33, 34, 44, 46 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e), over WO 2004/092240. Claim 30 now includes the element of Claim 32, which claim was not include in this rejection. Likewise, Claim 46 now includes the element of Claim 48, which claim was not included in this rejection. Finally, Claim 33 has been

cancelled and in favor of Claims 35-40, 42 and 43, which claims the Examiner has indicated are allowable over the art. In addition, the remaining claims this rejection have been amended to be dependent on allowable Claim 35. Accordingly, this rejection may be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 41 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (e), over WO 2004/092240. These claims are dependent indirectly on allowable Claim 35. Accordingly, this rejection may be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone Bret Field at (650) 327-3400.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

Respectfully submitted,
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

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By: /Bret E. Field, Reg. No. 37,620/
Bret E. Field
Registration No. 37,620

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP
1900 University Ave., Suite 200
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
Telephone (650) 327-3400
Facsimile (650) 327-3231